

REMARKS

Claims 21, 23-28, 32, and 34-36 remain pending in the above-identified application. The remaining claims were canceled, without prejudice. Reconsideration of the present application is requested.

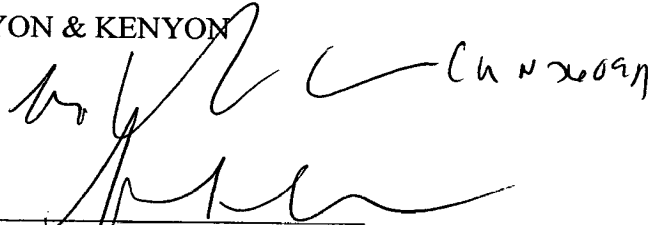
As an initial matter, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 24 and 36 are allowed. Applicants also gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 21, 23, 25-28, 32, 34 and 35 include allowable subject matter. Claims 21, 23, 25-27, 32, 34 and 35 have been amended to be rewritten in independent form. Claim 28 depends from claim 27. It is respectfully submitted that claims 21, 23, 25-28, 32, 34 and 35 should now be allowed.

Claims 19, 22, 29, 30, 31 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,401,968 to Cox. Claims 19, 22, 29, 30, 31 and 33 have been canceled, without prejudice. Accordingly, the rejection of these claims should now be withdrawn.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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